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TO: IMMEDIATE WWSB.

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM WILLIAM H. WEBSTER, DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

1. "PRESIDENT-ELECT GEORGE BUSH HAS SELECTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ROBERT M. GATES TO SERVE AS DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS.

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FOR THE AGENCY AND FOR BOB GATES. WHILE I WILL MISS HIM HERE IT IS A REAL PLUS FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THIS COUNTRY.

ADDITIONALLY I'M PLEASED THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT BUSH HAS INDICATED TO ME HIS INTENTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH MY RECOMMENDATION FOR BOB'S REPLACEMENT, RICHARD J. KERR, CURRENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTELLIGENCE. DICK IS WIDELY RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND HAS MY FULL CONFIDENCE."

2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR GATES ADDS: "I AM HONORED BY THE DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND BRENT SCOWCROFT TO APPOINT ME DEPUTY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH GENERAL SCOWCROFT AGAIN. AT THE SAME TIME, LEAVING CIA AFTER 22 YEARS IS VERY DIFFICULT. MADE MORE SO BY A CLOSE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH BILL WEBSTER. I ESPECIALLY WILL MISS WORKING DIRECTLY WITH THE EXTRAORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN OF THE AGENCY. YOU HAVE NO EQUAL IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE. WITH DIRECTOR WEBSTER, DICK KERR AND THE OTHER SENIOR MANAGERS IN PLACE, THE AGENCY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WILL

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HAVE CONTINUITY AND SUPERB LEADERSHIP."

3. FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT-ELECT ON THE NOMINATIONS: "THE PRESIDENT-ELECT HAS TODAY DESIGNATED ROBERT M. GATES TO BE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS. MR. GATES, WHO IS CURRENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, IS ADMIRABLY SUITED FOR THIS KEY POSITION.

"MR. GATES JOINED THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN 1966, SERVING AS AN INTELLIGENCE ANALYST AND AS ONE OF TWO ASSISTANT NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS FOR STRATEGIC PROGRAMS. IN 1974 HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF.

"SINCE 1974 HE HAS BEEN INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN THE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMUNITY, BOTH IN HIS PRESENT ROLE AND FROM 1974 TO 1979 AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF. HE KNOWS THE SYSTEM, THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE INTERAGENCY PROCESS FOR PRESIDENTIAL DECISION-MAKING, AND THE DETAILS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THAT PROCESS. HE WILL BE A VALUED MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SECURITY TEAM.

"MR. GATES, A NATIVE OF KANSAS, RECEIVED HIS BA DEGREE FROM THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY IN 1965, HIS MASTERS DEGREE IN HISTORY FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY IN 1966, AND HIS DOCTORATE IN RUSSIAN AND SOVIET HISTORY FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY IN 1974.

"TO REPLACE MR. GATES AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, THE PRESIDENT-ELECT WILL NOMINATE RICHARD J. KERR, THE CURRENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTELLIGENCE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. MR. KERR IS A CAREER INTELLIGENCE OFFICER WHO WILL BRING TO HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES A BROAD AND VARIED BACKGROUND IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY. THE PRESIDENT-ELECT IS ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO HAVE SOMEONE FROM WITHIN THE PROFESSIONAL RANKS WITH SUCH OUTSTANDING QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS MOST IMPORTANT POST."

END OF MESSAGE

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